

ABSTRACT

A homogeneous fluorescence polarization inhibition assay is used to test for *Salmonella* contamination, e.g., *Salmonella* cells, in a sample. The assay makes use of a tracer comprising a fluorophore conjugated to an oligosaccharide from a *Salmonella* cell wall lipopolysaccharide. The sample is added to an anti-*Salmonella* antibody to form a mixture, and a blank fluorescence polarization measurement is taken. The tracer is then added to the mixture. After incubation, the fluorescence polarization of the mixture is measured and the blank reading is subtracted. The level of *Salmonella* contamination in the sample may be determined from the fluorescence polarization measured in this way.

10